

2010 Consortium Awards - Nominations

Questions: Mark Duewell, MAGIC Awards Chair

573-882-6734 or duewellm@missouri.edu

From the September, 2009 Award Guidelines –

These awards will be presented during the initial plenary session. Awards may be conferred in any or all categories during a biennium. In unusual circumstances, the MAGIC Awards Committee may recommend that more than one award be presented in a category. Nominees for these awards may be individuals, groups or entities. Using the online nomination form, nominators should clearly outline the nature of the contribution being honored. The awards are voted on by the state caucuses, and presented on the first day of the symposium.

GIS Coordination: Nominees have demonstrated outstanding contributions to GIS Coordination benefiting their community in the MidAmerica region during the past two years. Contributions may have been through leadership, technical innovation or regional consensus building.

1). Nominator Information:

Name: Stanley Wolf

Organization: North Dakota Weed Control Association

Title: Vice President

Valley City ND 58072-9418

Telephone: 701-570-3545

Email: schroeder.becky@yahoo.com

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Coordination**

Name: **Jim Hansen**

Organization: North Dakota Department of Agriculture

Title: GIS Coordinator

Bismarck ND 58505-0020

Jim Hansen, North Dakota Department of Agriculture GIS Coordinator, has spearheaded the development of the web based North Dakota Hub Explorer Weed Mapper program. This program displays GPS mapped points of noxious weed infestations or noxious weed control sites across the entire state of North Dakota. As of October 22, 2009, the NDDA has received approximately two million GPS data points since 2007 from county weed control data loggers. The Weed Mapper program can display information for a single year or multiple years, for a single weed or multiple weeds. Numerous additional layers can be added for greater detail and search criteria. County weed control programs can track certain weed infestations within or outside of their jurisdictions to determine if scouting or control measures need be implemented. Accurate mapping also helps demonstrate to lawmakers and to the public that more resources may be needed to control noxious weeds. In developing this website, Hansen worked closely with county weed control officials and with Vince Thomas of Montana Ag Plastics, the developer of the data logger system. The cooperative effort between Hansen and Thomas has lead to the state wide implementation of GPS mapping of noxious weed infestation sites. Hansen has also been very instrumental in supporting the data logger systems through troubleshooting of data logger

problems. Hansen has worked as the County GIS Coordinator for Morton County, North Dakota and has been involved with numerous government mapping projects.

2). Nominator Information:

Name: Charles Brady III
Organization: City of Ardmore
Title: GIS Coordinator
Ardmore OK 73401
Telephone: 580-221-2541
Email: cbrady@ardmorecity.org

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Coordination**
Name: **Katy Rich**
Organization: Oklahoma Department of Health
Title: GIS Coordinator
Oklahoma City OK 73117

Having served with Katy on several committees & work groups over the years she has proven to be well suited for coordinating projects as well as events. Her organizational skills are exemplary & speaking from experience when Katy takes on an endeavor you do not need to follow up with it. Once she has the responsibility of seeing a task is completed she will not cease until it is perfectly carried out to her personal standards. She has coordinated many programs within the Oklahoma Department of Health to help provide GIS to the everyday user within the system. Last year Katy was the conference coordinator for the 12th Annual Oklahoma SCAUG conference which she worked on countless hours. Her dedication to her work is evident in the quality of the outcome of anything she works on. It was truly a pleasure working with someone with her level of proficiency & I do not hesitate in nominating her for the GIS coordination award anymore than I would hesitate in serving on another board with her in the future.

3). Nominator Information:

Name: Tony Perkins
Organization: City of Lenexa, Kansas
Title: GIS Manager
Address: 12350 w 87th Street Pkwy
Lenexa KS 66215
Telephone: 913-477-7679
Email: tperkins@ci.lenexa.ks.us

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Coordination**
Name: **Jay Heerman**
Organization: Johnson County - AIMS
Title: Director
Olathe KS 66061

Jay has dedicated his career to ensuring JOCO AIMS is one of the most nationally recognized GIS organizations. His leadership has afforded citizens of Johnson County and beyond the opportunity to utilize GIS tools and applications to maximize efficiencies in numerous lines of business. His vision and leadership has successfully teathered local, county, state and private organizations along a common theme of information sharing and easy to use applications.

4). Nominator Information:

Name: Corey Gillum
Organization: the Chickasaw Nation Geo-Spatial Information
Title: GIS Technician
Ada OK 74820
Telephone: 580-272-5479
Email: corey.gillum@chickasaw.net

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Coordination**
Name: **John Ellis**
Organization: the Chickasaw Nation GeoSpatial Information
Title: Director
Ada OK 74820

Mr. Ellis began working with GIS for the Chickasaw Nation in the mid 90's. His was a one man office for several years. Recognizing the potential of GIS he worked for the Chickasaw Nation to have the best tribal GIS in the United States. After years of hard work with less than satisfactory equipment, tribal leaders began to see how useful GIS is. A Geography and Statistics Section was formed within the Division of Housing in the Chickasaw Nation which evolved into what is now known as the GeoSpatial Information Department. The Chickasaw Nation Department of GeoSpatial Information currently employs a GIS Director (Mr. Ellis), a GIS Manager, a GIS Systems Administrator, A Web Developer, an Analyst, 2 Specialists, 2 Technicians, 3 Interns and an Administrative Assistant. The GeoSpatial Information Department has top of the line equipment and software. They even have Pictometry (4" and 12" orthogonal and oblique aerial imagery) covering most of the 13 county Chickasaw Nation Service Area. Mr. Ellis' vision for the Chickasaw Nation extends to the wider community ensuring they have equate maps. They have assisted the smaller police stations and fire departments in the area that cannot budget for GIS. They provide a very active internship program helping students from the Cartography and Geography Department at East Central University towards success. Within the Nation they create, maintain, and enhance maps and internal mapping websites for many different departments and divisions including Commerce, History and Culture, Realty, Housing, Environmental Services, BIA Fire Department, and the Lighthorse Police Department among countless other. The Chickasaw Nation Department of GeoSpatial Information was recognized at the 2009 ESRI Users conference being honored with a Special Achievement in GIS Award. Mr. Ellis has not only created a quality GIS within the Chickasaw Nation, but he continues to teach and give others the opportunities to grow individually and as a team.

5). Nominator Information:

Name: Ellen Harris
Organization: Oklahoma Natural Gas Company
Title: GIS Spec
Oklahoma City OK 73118
Telephone: 405-556-5923
Email: eeharris@ong.com

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Coordination**
Name: **Lee Ann Pulliam**

Organization: Oklahoma Natural Gas Company
Title: Engineering Services Supervisor
Oklahoma City OK 73118

Lee Ann Pulliam has helped catapult our mapping department and engineering services into the future using GIS. Today utilizing GIS, we are able to provide more services than ever before that benefit many departments within Oklahoma Natural Gas Company. By creating a GIS database not only are we creating maps of our gas pipelines for visualization purposes but also storing huge amounts of data containing information about our pipelines. We are able to create queries for other departments outside of engineering, and no longer subjected to create spreadsheets and do tabulations by hand on copies of maps for accounting queries. We have jumped in leaps and bounds in how we can help other departments using our GIS Database. In the first year alone since introducing GIS, we saved thousands of dollars in taxes. It is through her supervision and knowledge that we are continuously striving for excellence to provide services not only for our customers outside of our company but from within as well. Lee Ann has served on the frontline since the beginning of introducing and implementing GIS for our company. It is through her dedication to see this project completed and her loyalty to her peers that we have become so successful. I am proud to nominate her for this achievement in introducing and implementing GIS Mapping for Engineering Services, Oklahoma Natural Gas Company.

6). Nominator Information:

Name: Ken Nelson
Organization: Data Access and Support Center
Title: Manager
Lawrence KS 66047
Telephone: 785-864-2164
Email: nelson@kgs.ku.edu

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Coordination**
Name: **Eileen Battles**
Organization: Data Access and Support Center
Title: GIS Analyst - Local Government Liaison
Lawrence KS 66047

Over the past two years, DASC has greatly expanded its efforts to coordinate and collaborate with local governments across the state, and Eileen Battles has been a major key to the success of these efforts. She has worked tirelessly to attend meetings, workshops, and give presentations to promote DASC's local government coordination initiatives. She's provided assistance to the Kansas Adjutant General's Department on the facilitation of regional homeland security GIS projects, coordinated DASC's local GIS data backup program, and worked as part of a team to further the adoption of NSGIC's GIS Inventory application. Additionally, Eileen has been the lead staff person in charge of working with county clerks across the state to acquire and integrate voting district updates in preparation for the 2010 Census. Eileen has a great work ethic and is an extremely dedicated employee. She has developed a great working relationship with local governments across the state, and these relationships have helped to form the foundation of many state and local government collaboration efforts. I encourage the MAGIC Symposium Committee to strongly consider Eileen for an award in either the GIS Service or GIS Coordination category, as her dedication and efforts over the past two years in these areas have been significant to the success of the Kansas GIS Initiative and the Data Access & Support Center.

7). Nominator Information:

Name: Bill Sneed

Organization: USGS and Arkansas GIS Users Forum

Title: USGS State Liaison and Forum Vice-Chair

Telephone: 501-228-3665

Email: wsneed@usgs.gov

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Coordination**

Name: **Vince Guillet and Staff**

Organization: PAGIS

Title: GIS Manager

The Pulaski Area Geographic Information System (PAGIS) is an independent local government agency specializing in the acquisition, maintenance and distribution of GIS related data within Pulaski County. Above and beyond PAGIS' long history of determination, coordination and accomplishment for their constituent communities, this award is specifically intended to recognize the 11 years of very high profile and successful GIS Day activities that have opened up wider communication and presented a professional showcase of the potential of GIS to an expanded user community of interested agencies, citizens and public leaders. Their hard work and vision have made these events exemplary, highlighting the value of GIS data and applications to others in their community.

SAMPLES from November 2009: The "Developing Central Arkansas Using GIS" theme for PAGIS' event focusing on GIS data technology as strategic resources for economic development.

Presentations included Entergy Arkansas, web based application site consultants use for locating new industries. Arkansas Senator Broadway, relied heavily on GIS to provide quick reports, maps to site consultants relocating the National Boy Scout Jamboree site. The Arkansas Geo-cacher Association's fun presentation about geo-caching. Environmental and Spatial Technology schools attended from around Arkansas. Special announcement from Arkansas Dept of Education and EAST Initiative, "ESRI will provide access of ESRI software to ALL schools in Arkansas

Please visit the following web pages for excellent summaries of the last few GIS Day events. It's easy to see from the pictures and participation the extent to which they understand and support the mission of GIS Day in particular, and in support of wider collaboration and understanding in their own community.

<http://www.pagis.pulaski.ar.us/news.htm>

8). Nominator Information:

Name: Ray Fox

Organization: USGS

Title: Geospatial Liaison for Missouri

Telephone: 573-308-3744

Email: rfox@usgs.gov

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Coordination**

Name: **Andrew (Andy) Wagner**

Organization: City of Maryland Heights, MO

Title: GIS Coordinator

Andy Wagner, GIS Manager for the City of Maryland Heights in St Louis County, MO developed a consortium of twelve cities, fire districts, and other entities in the St Louis area for the purpose of sharing in the cost of obtaining new imagery. Through Andy's efforts all of St Louis City and County will have six inch resolution imagery in 2010. USGS has tried to develop consortiums since 2002, and while St Louis County and the Metro Sewer District have been good partners, many of the cities and other

governmental units in the region needed six inch imagery, and we were not able to come up with the additional funds. Developing this consortium has been a major undertaking by Andy with numerous meetings and phone calls to convince all the parties that by working together the region could not only take advantage of the federal program to pay a portion of the costs, but also a better product could be purchased at a savings to all concerned. Andy had extended invitations to other government and private organizations in the region, and the hope is that this year's effort will convince others to cooperate in two years when the federal effort begins again. Andy has already started planning the schedule for the 2012 effort.

9). Nominator Information:

Name: Larry Zink, Jim Langtry
Organization: State of Nebraska
Title: Nebraska GIS Coordinator
Telephone: 402-471-3206
Email: larry.zink@nebraska.gov

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Coordination**
Name: **Mike Schonlau**
Organization: City of Omaha and Douglas County
Title: GIS Coordinator

Mike Schonlau is the GIS Coordinator for the City of Omaha and Douglas County. He previously served as the Pottawattamie County, Iowa, GIS Coordinator. Over the years, Mike has consistently provided leadership in a wide variety of collaborative endeavors in the GIS community. In his core position in Douglas County, Mike has been the catalyst to bring together city and county GIS users to support the development of an integrated local government GIS. Mike also actively seeks to work with the surrounding counties of Sarpy, Washington, and Pottawattamie on a broad range of GIS initiatives. He lead the 2007 and 2010 NIROC (Nebraska-Iowa Regional Orthophotography Consortium) projects. The 2007 NIROC was a collaborative effort involving numerous cities, counties, NRDS, utilities, state and federal agencies to acquire new high-resolution orthophotography for over 8,000 square miles in eastern and central Nebraska and western Iowa. The 2010 NIROC collaborative effort will acquire high resolution orthoimagery, obliques, LiDAR, and other products for the partners. In 2007, Mike served as the Chair of the 2007 Nebraska GIS Symposium planning committee which, for the first time, hosted the GIS Symposium in Omaha. Mike is a member of, and recently elected Chair of the Nebraska GIS Council. In that role he provides representation for local governments and Nebraska's urbanized areas in addition to providing a catalyst for local-state-federal-private partnerships. In addition to serving on the Nebraska GIS Council, Mike is an active member of the NebraskaMAP Partnership Committee, which is guiding the development of a geospatial portal for Nebraska. Mike also serves on several state-level committees such as the Nebraska Street Centerline-Address Database Advisory Committee and the LiDAR Advisory Committee. His continuing leadership in a wide variety of collaborative efforts deserves the recognition of a 2010 MAGIC GIS Coordination Award.

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GIS Innovation Nominees have demonstrated an outstanding innovation using GIS technologies in the MidAmerica region during the past two years. Contributions may have been through applications or projects that reflect creative utilization of GIS.

1). Nominator Information:

Name: Ann Fritz
Organization: North Dakota Department of Health
Title: Environmental Scientist III
Bismarck ND 58501
Telephone: 701.328.5162
Email: afritz@nd.gov

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Innovation**
Name: **Chris Bader, Rod Bassler, Paul Moen**
Organization: North Dakota State Water Commission
Title: IT Coordinator, GIS Coordinator, IT staff
Bismarck ND 58505-0850

Necessity is the mother of invention. If you are a state agency facing a major budget cut and mandated consolidated IT infrastructure in the middle of implementing a two phase GIS/IT project, you must be inventive. Such was the fate of the North Dakota State Water Commission (SWC) during the 2003-2005 biennium. Chris Bader, Rod Bassler and Paul Moen at the SWC had developed an integrated GIS/IT data storage and mapping solution to manage the hundreds of thousands of water well records that the agency is mandated to maintain. They had planned a phased approach to build the client-server architecture and tie in the legacy data to deliver it via a web-mapping interface. Midway through implementation, with half of the software and hardware purchased, they were faced with a political and budget climate that was not conducive to increased IT spending. To salvage the project, they began investigation of open-source solutions to complete phase II. Phase II was the most critical: delivery of the data to their staff and a mapping interface. The trio found that by using PostGIS, MapServer and Apache in addition to their existing 4D database they were able to provide a better fit and more open architecture than a purchased solution would have created. They saved \$68,000 in server and \$80,000 in client infrastructure purchases alone. Because of their determination to complete the project and their innovative open-sourced solutions, they were able to build a system that is undeniably better than originally planned. The SWC MapServer is now often used to serve data to state agencies prior to posting it on the official ND GIS Hub. This ability is particularly useful for NAIP imagery; data that is in high demand, but will not be available on the state GIS hub for at least another 3 months. Chris, Rod and Paul deserve to be recognized for their achievement in providing cost-effective and innovative solution to GIS data management.

2). Nominator Information:

Name: Stanley Wolf
Organization: North Dakota Weed Control Association
Title: Vice President
Valley City ND 58072-9418
Telephone: 701-570-3545
Email: Schroeder.becky@yahoo.com

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Innovation**
Name: **Vince Thomas**
Organization: Montana Ag Plastics

Title: President
Billings MT 59104

Vince Thomas of Montana Ag Plastics has developed a low cost GPS data logger system that when tied into a weed sprayer will record the GPS location when the sprayer is switched on. The MAP Multi-Event GPS Datalogger System has evolved over the years to become the première GPS data logger system used by all of the county and city weed boards in the state of North Dakota. The data logger has five programmable buttons representing different types of noxious weeds. The buttons also calculate canopy coverage according to how many times the button is pressed. County weed control programs use canopy cover data to determine the effectiveness of control measures. The data loggers can be hand held or mounted on spray vehicles to map weed infestation areas or to map where herbicides have been applied. The data points can easily be uploaded into a personal computer and uses All Topo Maps Pro software for its mapping functions. Each noxious or invasive weed has its own symbol in the mapping program. The combination of the data loggers and the mapping software allows the user to develop records and maps of weed infestations or weed control application sites. Weed control districts need accurate maps for pesticide record keeping and to assist in determining the effectiveness of control measures. Thomas worked closely with Jim Hansen, North Dakota Department of Agriculture GIS Coordinator, in developing the MAP Multi-Event GPS Datalogger System so it can provide the necessary data points and attributes for the North Dakota Hub Explorer Weed Mapper Program. Combined with the data points the NDDA Weed Mapper system shows all of the weed data points across the state. Thomas is the owner of Montana Ag Plastics and has been involved with weed control programs and GPS mapping for over 20 years.

3). Nominator Information:

Name: Kenny Legleiter
Organization: Merrick & Company
Title: Senior Government Account Manager
Aurora CO 80014
Telephone: 303-353-3837
Email: kenny.legleiter@merrick.com

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Innovation**
Name: **Scott Lindebak**
Organization: City of Wichita, Kansas
Title: Storm water Engineer
Wichita CO 67202

Scott Lindebak is the Storm Water Engineer with the City of Wichita, Kansas. Following Hurricane Katrina, FEMA requires cities to recertify their levees and flood control systems. As one of the first recertification projects in the country, under Mr. Lindebak's leadership in the Storm Water Department, the City of Wichita with its extensive levee system, selected LiDAR and digital aerial imagery to obtain the best geospatial and engineering data possible to complete the recertification process. To increase the usability, benefits, and to produce regional applications, Mr. Lindebak encouraged other entities from nearby cities, Sedgwick County, and the federal government to get involved in the project. Mr. Lindebak has a vision of incorporating the latest and most accurate geospatial data and technology into the City's levee recertification and storm water planning projects. Mr. Lindebak vision is to incorporate precipitation and stream gauge information with high accuracy elevation data to develop almost real-time flood models. During thunderstorms, Mr. Lindebak wants to be able to model flooding as it happen in real time. Mr. Lindebak didn't just use the most common geospatial data or methods used in other

levee recertification projects, but instead, he wanted the most accurate and usable data currently available. Mr. Lindebak required a very high accuracy and dense LiDAR dataset, with a variety of elevation derivative products including DTM LAS LiDAR files, 2-ft DTM ESRI grids, a hydro geodatabase created from the LiDAR data that includes 5 acre catchments, primary drainage lines, and updated the Watershed Boundary Dataset. By using these advanced technologies, Wichita and the surrounding communities benefited from the results of new hydraulic models and levee re-certifications results which have higher degrees of accuracy and confidence levels. Thus, future rain events and storm water runoff can be mitigated and prevent the loss of lives and property.

4). Nominator Information:

Name: Corey Gillum

Organization: the Chickasaw Nation GeoSpatial Information

Title: GIS Technician

Ada OK 74820

Telephone: 580-272-5479

Email: corey.gillum@chickasaw.net

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Innovation**

Name: **John Ellis**

Organization: the Chickasaw Nation Geo-Spatial Information

Title: Director

Ada OK 74820

Mr. Ellis began working with GIS for the Chickasaw Nation in the mid 90's. His was a one man office for several years. Recognizing the potential of GIS he worked for the Chickasaw Nation to have the best tribal GIS in the United States. After years of hard work with less than satisfactory equipment, tribal leaders began to see how useful GIS can be. A Geography and Statistics Section was formed within the Division of Housing in the Chickasaw Nation which evolved into what is now known as the GeoSpatial Information Department. The Chickasaw Nation Department of GeoSpatial Information currently employs a GIS Director (Mr. Ellis), a GIS Manager, a GIS Systems Administrator, A Web Developer, an Analyst, 2 Specialists, 2 Technicians, 3 Interns and an Administrative Assistant. The GeoSpatial Information Department has top of the line equipment and software. They even have Pictometry (4" and 12" orthogonal and oblique aerial imagery) covering most of the 13 county Chickasaw Nation Service Area. Mr. Ellis' vision for the Chickasaw Nation extends to the wider community ensuring they have adequate maps. They have assisted the smaller police stations and fire departments in the area that cannot budget for GIS. They provide a very active internship program helping students from the Cartography and Geography Department at East Central University towards success. Within the Nation they create, maintain, and enhance maps and internal mapping websites for many different departments and divisions including Commerce, History and Culture, Realty, Housing, Environmental Services, BIA Fire Department, and the Lighthorse Police Department among countless other. The Chickasaw Nation Department of GeoSpatial Information was recognized at the 2009 ESRI Users conference being honored with a Special Achievement in GIS Award. Mr. Ellis has not only created a quality GIS within the Chickasaw Nation, but he continues to teach and give others the opportunities to grow individually and as a team.

5). Nominator Information:

Name: Suzanne Wiley

Organization: Arkansas GIS Users Forum
Title: Executive Committee
Telephone: 870-367-7176
Email: suzanwiley@earthlink.net

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Innovation**

Name: **Jim Boardman**

Organization: Arkansas Department of Education

Title: Asst Commissioner for Research & Technology

Little Rock, AR

In 2009 the Arkansas Department of Education, in cooperation with the EAST Initiative and Center for Advanced Spatial Technologies, began providing GIS software, teacher training, and GIS application templates to **ALL** K-12 schools in Arkansas. It is truly unique and innovative within the US in that it not only provides GIS software and a support program for teacher education and curriculum, but also enables administrative use of GIS tools in all schools as well.

Quoting from one of the reports of what is really going on with Arkansas EAST and this new program: "What's exciting to me about what these students are doing is that they are real projects, requiring basic but solid skills with some advanced technology, good critical thinking and problem solving, ability to cope with an ill-structured problem, collaboration and independent work, capacity to integrate disparate data of a physical and cultural nature, thru scientific thinking and mathematical analyses, and to represent the results of their work in ways that communicate a tremendous amount of information effectively and quickly. The statewide license in Arkansas covers both instruction (all grades, all classes, all subjects, any number of computers) and administration (all schools, all districts, any number of computers). Arkansas has a huge opportunity to engage kids at all levels in activities that support personal goals, classroom activities, and community needs, all at once. That's what the Arkansas Dept of Ed recognized and acted on."

This is truly an innovative approach in support of K-12 and has resulted in many new opportunities for Arkansas youth. To illustrate, 150+ schools in the EAST Initiative (www.eastproject.org) have had access to GIS by ESRI for about 6-7 years and have done outstanding work. In 2007, two young lads from Beebe Middle School -- then just done with 6th grade -- were up on stage at the ESRI User Conference and spoke in front of 12,000 GIS professionals about their project.

GIS Service Nominees have demonstrated outstanding contributions to GIS Service benefiting their community in the MidAmerica region during the past two years. Contributions may have been through education, outreach, training, applications, projects or by successfully accomplishing grants that benefit their communities.

1). Nominator Information:

Name: Herb Kuehne / Paula Lemke

Organization: Iowa Geographic Information Council

Title: Past Presidents

Sioux City IA 51101

Telephone: 712-279-6158

Email: hkuehne@sioux-city.org

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Service**

Name: **Jim Giglierano**
Organization: Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Title: Senior GIS Specialist
Iowa City IA 52242

Jim Giglierano has been a quiet driving force behind GIS projects in the State of Iowa for over 25 years. He has continually inspired the Iowa Geographic Information Council (IGIC) with “out of the box” thinking that has kept Iowa on the cutting edge of numerous GIS developments. Jim assisted in raising over \$1 million dollars from numerous public and private agencies in order to pay for two state-wide ortho-photo projects. He led the campaign to get statewide LIDAR coverage, long before the Federal government decided to help States fund such a project. In fact, over the last two years, Jim has been THE major impetus behind almost all external funding for all of Iowa’s major GIS projects. He envisioned and wrote successful USGS Cap Grant applications in order to conduct a Return-on-Investment study of GIS for the State of Iowa. The goal of the study was to create a tool that would convince decision makers about the value of GIS work. Jim creatively expanded the scope of the project to create an Iowa Geographic Infrastructure that will bring GIS into all of Iowa’s 99 counties. In July 2009, Jim completed a second ROI study that specifically targeted geospatial activities undertaken during and after major eastern Iowa floods in 2008. He presented the first study at the 2008 MAGIC Symposium. He will present the county study at the 2010 Senior Executive Seminar. Jim was instrumental in helping organize the MAGIC Rural Summit programs. He participated in the first Summit held in Missouri in May ‘09 and was even more involved at the Iowa Summit in Sept.’09. Jim is currently pursuing state-wide address points, new NAIP flights for Iowa, an ROI study for cities, and an expanded hydrography project. Lastly, Jim continues to push the state of Iowa to build GIS data sets for both state needs and the NSDI. Throughout all this activity, Jim operates with a cheerful, non-directive, humorous style that makes people excited and interested in his projects.

2). Nominator Information:

Name: Carrie Landgraf
Organization: The Benham Companies, LLC
Title: GIS Director
Tulsa OK 74103
Telephone: 918-599-4394
Email: carrie.landgraf@benham.com

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Service**
Name: **Melissa Scott Brown**
Organization: Center for Spatial Analysis
Title: Assistant Director of Research and Education
Norman OK 73073-7807

I am nominating the Center for Spatial Analysis (CSA) for its Outstanding Contributions in GIS Service. The following is a small number of the great services CSA offers that highlight its commitment to benefiting the Oklahoma GIS community. Being a multidisciplinary research center at the University of Oklahoma, CSA provides great opportunities for students to expand their understanding of geospatial relationships and incorporate GIS into their fields of study. CSA also encourages students to advance themselves professionally by helping them to participate in statewide GIS activities. These students are presenting at such events. This helps build a great GIS community by infusing it with new ways to

explore applications of GIS. CSA extends its outreach beyond the university as well. CSA hosts workshops for Girl Scouts to introduce girls to the earth sciences – opening the door to new educational and career opportunities. CSA also helps sponsor activities for other organizations. For the past 2 years, CSA has helped coordinate user group meetings for Oklahoma SCAUG chapter. With CSA's help, these free user group meetings have elicited over 80 attendees each year, which is a lot for Oklahoma! On a final note, the GIS community would not be the same if it weren't for two services provided by CSA. One of these is the OKGIS List Server. Anyone can join the OKGIS List, but the users focus on the unique needs and resources available in Oklahoma. CSA also hosts a free data repository comprised of data layers created by different agencies. Both the OKGIS List and the online Data Warehouse are resources the GIS community uses on a daily basis and benefit from greatly. I encourage you to check out CSA's website to appreciate the full scope of the organization's service to the GIS community in Oklahoma and beyond. I know as it continues to expand its niche at the University of Oklahoma, it will also find new ways to enrich the overall Oklahoma GIS community.

3). Nominator Information:

Name: Eileen Battles

Organization: DASC

Title: GIS Analyst/Project Manager

Lawrence KS 66047

Telephone: 785-864-2000

Email: battles@kgs.ku.edu

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Service**

Name: **Jessica Frye**

Organization: Kansas Adjutant General's Dept.

Title: GIS Coordinator

Topeka KS 66611

Jessica is the GIS Coordinator for the Kansas Adjutant General's Department. She is vital in this role and works with various groups, which include Kansas National Guard, Kansas Division of Emergency Management, and all other local and state agencies in support of emergency management. Jessica has successfully led the Kansas Homeland Security regional GIS grant projects. The goal of these projects is to delineate the status of current GIS efforts in all Kansas counties so future GIS efforts—local, regional and state—can pursue the ultimate goal of having critical data available for response and recovery efforts. Due to these efforts, Kansas now has over 80 counties data inventoried using the Kansas GIS Inventory tool and 92 counties have their GIS data backed up at the State Clearinghouse - DASC. Additionally, in support of Incident Management Teams (IMTs), Jessica has gathered a group of volunteers from across the state for the Kansas GIS Response Team. This team will provide additional GIS support for state and local government leaders in disasters. Jessica's work has improved the relationship of Emergency Managers and GIS professionals across the state. She is always willing to make presentations, provide support, and encourage collaboration in support of GIS and emergency management on behalf of the State of Kansas. Kansas is lucky to have Jessica as a leader in GIS and we would like to recognize her hard work and dedication.

4). Nominator Information:

Name: Kristen Jordan

Organization: Jefferson County, Kansas

Title: GIS Project Manager

Oskaloosa KS 66066
Telephone: 785-863-2173
Email: kjordan@jfcountyks.com

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Service**
Name: **Chris Schmeissner**, Ph.D., GISP
Organization: Jefferson County, Kansas
Title: GIS Coordinator
Oskaloosa KS 66066

Dr. Schmeissner has led the Jefferson County, Kansas, GIS Department from using one ArcInfo license to expanding into six county departments with over twenty county employees utilizing an ESRI ELA (Enterprise License Agreement). Chris has developed several customized desktop tools and web applications that make daily operations efficient and streamlined for both county employees, taxpayers & local businesses. Chris also recognizes that GIS doesn't stop at the Jefferson County border by his enthusiastic participation in several collaboration projects with the cities inside the county, other Kansas counties and State organizations. In 2007, the GIS Dept, the Kansas Association of Counties, and the Kansas Collaborative partnered to showcase county GIS ideas and capabilities in a four-hour, educational seminar. In 2008, the GIS Dept collaborated with eight cities, the Kansas Rural Water Association and the Kansas Water Office to complete low-cost GPS location of city utilities, provide data backups through DASC (Data Access and Support Center), and set up a secure website for the cities to interactively view their utility data. Starting in 2008, Dr. Schmeissner partnered with three neighboring counties to cost-share on aerial photography and saved the county \$10,000-\$15,000. In 2009 collaboration efforts began between the Kansas Department of Revenue, ESRI and three counties, including Jefferson County, to customize and test a web application that provided a GIS component to the newly-adopted ORION appraisal system. Hopefully the web application will soon be offered at no cost to other Kansas counties. Through Chris's forward-thinking leadership, GIS has become an integral part of Jefferson County daily operations. Not only does he strive to use GIS to benefit county employees and residents, but he uses his GIS knowledge and ideas to bring GIS forward as a solution to problems experienced across the State through providing project templates and customizable web applications.

5). Nominator Information:

Name: Corey Gillum
Organization: the Chickasaw Nation GeoSpatial Information
Title: GIS Technician
Ada OK 74820
Telephone: 580-272-5479
Email: corey.gillum@chickasaw.net

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Service**
Name: **John Ellis**
Organization: the Chickasaw Nation Geo-Spatial Information
Title: Director
Ada OK 74820

Mr. Ellis began working with GIS for the Chickasaw Nation in the mid 90's. His was a one man office for several years. Recognizing the potential of GIS he worked for the Chickasaw Nation to have the best tribal GIS in the United States. After years of hard work with less than satisfactory equipment, tribal leaders began to see how useful GIS is. A Geography and Statistics Section was formed within the Division of Housing in the Chickasaw Nation which evolved into what is now known as the GeoSpatial Information Department. The Chickasaw Nation Department of GeoSpatial Information currently employs a GIS Director (Mr. Ellis), a GIS Manager, a GIS Systems Administrator, A Web Developer, an Analyst, 2 Specialists, 2 Technicians, 3 Interns and an Administrative Assistant. The GeoSpatial Information Department has top of the line equipment and software. They even have Pictometry (4" and 12" orthogonal and oblique aerial imagery) covering most of the 13 county Chickasaw Nation Service Area. Mr. Ellis' vision for the Chickasaw Nation extends to the wider community ensuring they have equate maps. They have assisted the smaller police stations and fire departments in the area that cannot budget for GIS. They provide a very active internship program helping students from the Cartography and Geography Department at East Central University towards success. Within the Nation they create, maintain, and enhance maps and internal mapping websites for many different departments and divisions including Commerce, History and Culture, Realty, Housing, Environmental Services, BIA Fire Department, and the Lighthorse Police Department among countless other. The Chickasaw Nation Department of GeoSpatial Information was recognized at the 2009 ESRI Users conference being honored with a Special Achievement in GIS Award. Mr. Ellis has not only created a quality GIS within the Chickasaw Nation, but he continues to teach and give others the opportunities to grow individually and as a team.

6). Nominator Information:

Name: Charles Brady III

Organization: City of Ardmore

Title: GIS Coordinator

Ardmore OK 73401

Telephone: 580-221-2541

Email: cbrady@ardmorecity.org

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Service**

Name: **Mike Sharp**

Organization: Oklahoma Conservation Commission

Title: Information Technology Director

Oklahoma City OK 73105

Mike Sharp has been instrumental in the growth progress of GIS within Oklahoma. Mike currently is the chair of the Oklahoma State GI council & has proven to be a political champion for GIS within Oklahoma as well as at the national level. His dedication to providing GIS as a basic service to the public is unequalled in our state. Mike has been a driving force for progress in our state for many years even though his official job does not require his level of dedication to the GIS community. His determination has initiated & developed many resources & programs the public will benefit from including a State GIS Coordinator position, an Oklahoma GIS data clearinghouse, and the development of official job descriptions for GIS professionals in Oklahoma just to name a few. I have personally experienced his caring dedication when my county was recently hit by a F4 tornado during the night earlier this year. Mike & his staff were personally calling me to tell me they were already working on getting me whatever GIS data was possible to help with the search & rescue efforts. This phone call came in the middle of the night & the support continued until the rescue & recovery operation was completed.

Based on my working experience with Mike over the past decade I feel he is more than deserving of the GIS Service award.

7). Nominator Information:

Name: Ken Nelson

Organization: Data Access and Support Center

Title: Manager

Lawrence KS 66047

Telephone: 785-864-2164

Email: nelson@kgs.ku.edu

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Service**

Name: **Eileen Battles**

Organization: Data Access and Support Center

Title: GIS Analyst - Local Government Liaison

Lawrence KS 66047

Over the past two years, DASC has greatly expanded its efforts to coordinate and collaborate with local governments across the state, and Eileen Battles has been a major key to the success of these efforts. She has worked tirelessly to attend meetings, workshops, and give presentations to promote DASC's local government coordination initiatives. She's provided assistance to the Kansas Adjutant General's Department on the facilitation of regional homeland security GIS projects, coordinated DASC's local GIS data backup program, and worked as part of a team to further the adoption of NSGIC's GIS Inventory application. Additionally, Eileen has been the lead staff person in charge of working with county clerks across the state to acquire and integrate voting district updates in preparation for the 2010 Census. Eileen has a great work ethic and is an extremely dedicated employee. She has developed a great working relationship with local governments across the state, and these relationships have helped to form the foundation of many state and local government collaboration efforts. I encourage the MAGIC Symposium Committee to strongly consider Eileen for an award in either the GIS Service or GIS Coordination category, as her dedication and efforts over the past two years in these areas have been significant to the success of the Kansas GIS Initiative and the Data Access & Support Center.

8). Nominator Information:

Name: Carol Smith

Organization: James C. Kirkpatrick Library, University of Central Missouri

Title: Assistant Professor of Library Services

Warrensburg MO 64093

Telephone: 660-543-8639

Email: csmith@libserv.ucmo.edu

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Service**

Name: **Dr. Keshav Bhattarai**

Organization: Department of Geography, University of Central Missouri

Title: Professor/Interim Chair

Warrensburg MO 64092

As an academic librarian aware that traditional library map services are being dramatically transformed by geospatial technologies, I was interested in learning more about GIS. Dr. Bhattarai responded to my

brief inquiry of interest in late 2006 by immediately visiting with me in person, actively encouraging me to study GIS. He takes this same, highly personalized approach with all of his students, and I consider this the central reason for the growing success of our university's GIS program. He is nurturing our future generation of GIS professionals! Dr. B. has always taken the time to go beyond the boundaries of the classroom to inspire students to accomplish more with GIS. GIS is most meaningful to students when it is grounded in real-world projects. Dr. B. understands this, and is continually seeking out such opportunities for his students. The personal pride he takes in his students' accomplishments can be directly viewed at <http://ucmo.edu/gis/action/student.cfm>. In my case, his above-and-beyond approach to GIS instruction has led to he and I co-teaching GIS workshops for campus faculty via the university's Center for Teaching and Learning. This in turn has opened up numerous opportunities for me to "hone my GIS chops" via a broad variety of GIS consultations with faculty and staff across campus. We're also in active talks to engage in a library-related GIS project together, which I am very excited about. Dr. B. has also engaged in broad efforts to expand campus awareness of an interest in GIS. These activities have included successfully petitioning for a campus-wide site license for ESRI ArcGIS, developing GIS workshops for faculty, serving as a key member of the campus GIS User group, developing the university's GIS web pages, and supporting GIS users via the campus GIS listserv. He's also a tireless grant seeker, and his students have directly benefited from the technology and resource materials awards his grant writing efforts have brought to his dept.

9). Nominator Information:

Name: Danny Stratton
Organization: Show-Me Net, Inc.
Title: Operations Manager
Jackson MO 63755
Telephone: 573-204-1097
Email: helpdesk@showme.net

Nominee Information:

Category: **GIS Service**
Name: **Larry Loos (posthumously)**
Organization: Show-Me Net, Inc. and SEMO GIS
Title: Chairman of Board of Directors
Jackson MO 63755

Larry Loos passed away in February 2009. Larry was the "founding father" of Show-Me Net and SEMO GIS. He became interested in GIS about ten years ago and was the "brains" behind the purchase and implementation of Southeast Missouri's first GIS map server - www.semogis.com/ - in 1996. He continued to support GIS education and support the rest of his life. Larry also gave his immense knowledge and support to MAGIC and local GIS groups.